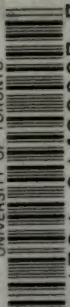


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HART HOUSE

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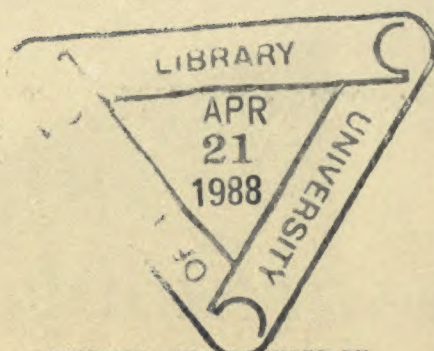
Robin S. Harris



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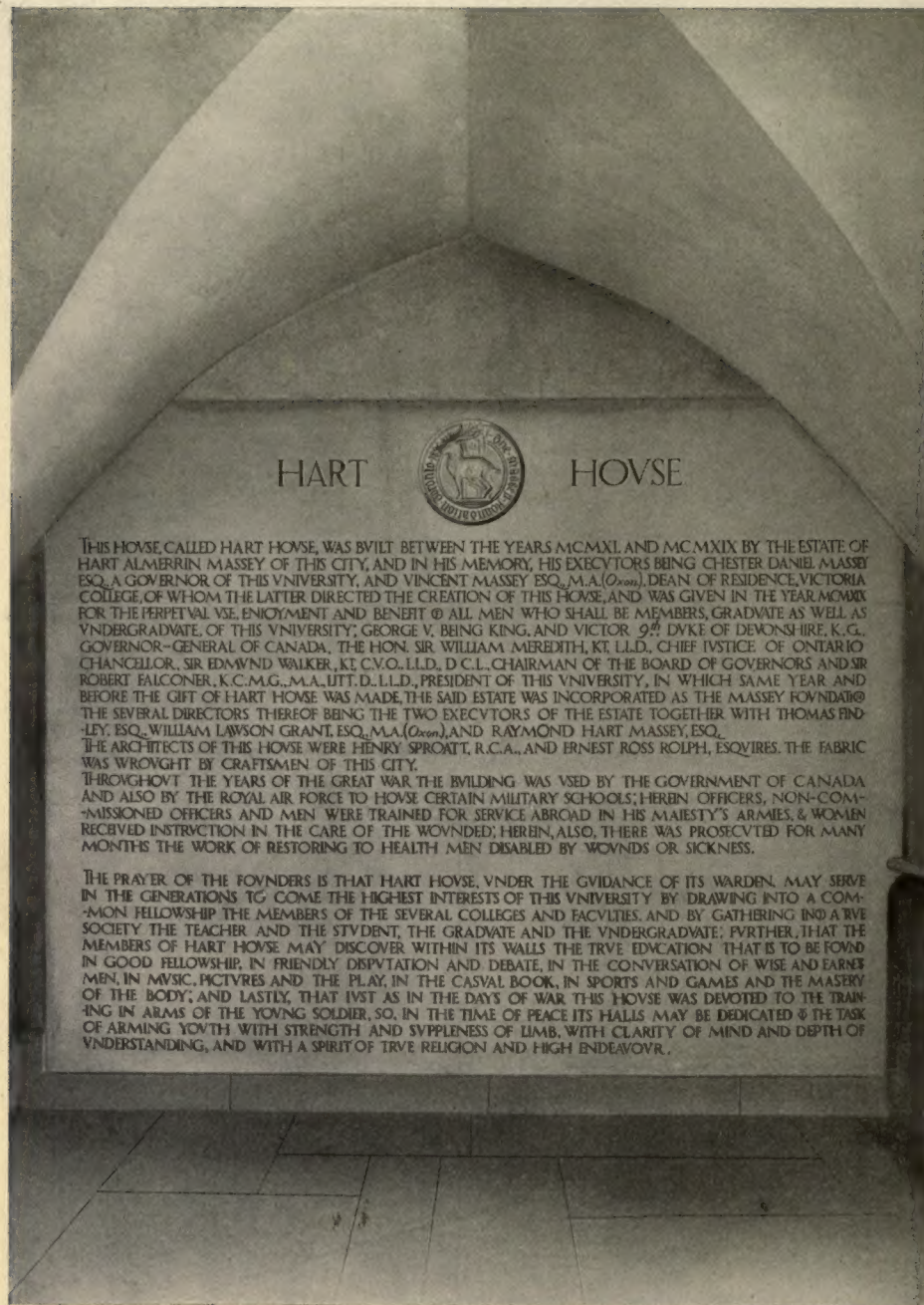
HART HOUSE

University of Toronto

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1921



HART



HOVSE

THIS HOUSE, CALLED HART HOVSE, WAS BUILT BETWEEN THE YEARS MCMXI AND MCMXIX BY THE ESTATE OF HART ALMERRIN MASSEY OF THIS CITY, AND IN HIS MEMORY, HIS EXECUTORS BEING CHESTER DANIEL MASSEY ESQ., A GOVERNOR OF THIS UNIVERSITY, AND VINCENT MASSEY ESQ., M.A. (Oxon), DEAN OF RESIDENCE, VICTORIA COLLEGE, OF WHOM THE LATTER DIRECTED THE CREATION OF THIS HOVSE, AND WAS GIVEN IN THE YEAR MCMXIX FOR THE PERPETUAL USE, ENJOYMENT AND BENEFIT OF ALL MEN WHO SHALL BE MEMBERS, GRADUATE AS WELL AS UNDERGRADUATE, OF THIS UNIVERSITY; GEORGE V. BEING KING, AND VICTOR 9th DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, K.G., GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA, THE HON. SIR WILLIAM MERBETH, KT, LL.D., CHIEF JUSTICE OF ONTARIO CHANCELLOR, SIR EDMUND WALKER, KT, C.V.O., LL.D., D.C.L., CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND SIR ROBERT FALCONER, K.C.M.G., M.A., LL.D., LL.D., PRESIDENT OF THIS UNIVERSITY, IN WHICH SAME YEAR AND BEFORE THE GIFT OF HART HOVSE WAS MADE, THE SAID ESTATE WAS INCORPORATED AS THE MASSEY FOUNDATION, THE SEVERAL DIRECTORS THEREOF BEING THE TWO EXECUTORS OF THE ESTATE TOGETHER WITH THOMAS FINLEY, ESQ., WILLIAM LAWSON GRANT, ESQ., M.A. (Oxon), AND RAYMOND HART MASSEY, ESQ., THE ARCHITECTS OF THIS HOVSE WERE HENRY SPROATT, R.C.A., AND ERNEST ROSS ROLPH, ESQVRES. THE FABRIC WAS WROUGHT BY CRAFTSMEN OF THIS CITY.

THROUGHOUT THE YEARS OF THE GREAT WAR THE BUILDING WAS USED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND ALSO BY THE ROYAL AIR FORCE TO HOUSE CERTAIN MILITARY SCHOOLS; HEREIN OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN WERE TRAINED FOR SERVICE ABROAD IN HIS MAJESTY'S ARMIES, & WOMEN RECEIVED INSTRUCTION IN THE CARE OF THE WOUNDED; HEREIN, ALSO, THERE WAS PROSECUTED FOR MANY MONTHS THE WORK OF RESTORING TO HEALTH MEN DISABLED BY WOUNDS OR SICKNESS.

THE PRAYER OF THE FOUNDERS IS THAT HART HOVSE, UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF ITS WARDEN, MAY SERVE IN THE GENERATIONS TO COME THE HIGHEST INTERESTS OF THIS UNIVERSITY BY DRAWING INTO A COMMON FELLOWSHIP THE MEMBERS OF THE SEVERAL COLLEGES AND FACULTIES, AND BY GATHERING INTO A TRUE SOCIETY THE TEACHER AND THE STUDENT, THE GRADUATE AND THE UNDERGRADUATE; FURTHER, THAT THE MEMBERS OF HART HOVSE MAY DISCOVER WITHIN ITS WALLS THE TRUE EDUCATION THAT IS TO BE FOUND IN GOOD FELLOWSHIP, IN FRIENDLY DISPUTATION AND DEBATE, IN THE CONVERSATION OF WISE AND FEARLESS MEN, IN MUSIC, PICTURES AND THE PLAY, IN THE CASUAL BOOK, IN SPORTS AND GAMES AND THE MASTERY OF THE BODY; AND LASTLY, THAT JUST AS IN THE DAYS OF WAR THIS HOVSE WAS DEVOTED TO THE TRAINING IN ARMS OF THE YOUNG SOLDIER, SO, IN THE TIME OF PEACE ITS HALLS MAY BE DEDICATED TO THE TASK OF ARMING YOUTH WITH STRENGTH AND SUPPLENESS OF LIMB, WITH CLARITY OF MIND AND DEPTH OF UNDERSTANDING, AND WITH A SPIRIT OF TRUE RELIGION AND HIGH ENDEAVOUR.

Dedicatory Inscription at the East End of the Main Corridor.

HART HOUSE



HART HOUSE, the Men's Union in the University of Toronto, is the gift of the Massey Foundation to the University. The origins and purpose of the building are perhaps best explained by the following extract from an address made by Mr. Vincent Massey, Vice-Chairman of the Massey Foundation, on the occasion of the formal opening of the House on November 11th, 1919, by His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., Governor-General.

"The project of Hart House was conceived in 1910, when it became evident that the Young Men's Christian Association stood in need of better rooms and that the Undergraduate body required quarters in the nature of a club.

"To meet these needs the Executors of the Estate of Mr. Hart Massey, of Toronto, offered to give to the University a building which would serve as a Memorial to the founder of the trust, and bear his name. This offer was accepted and construction commenced in 1911.

"Owing to the war, Hart House developed slowly, but the pause in its erection gave an opportunity to widen its scope. It is perhaps not incorrect to say that the House as it now stands is intended to represent the sum of those activities of the student which lie outside the curriculum. These activities are not unimportant; indeed, I would submit, Sir, that the truest education requires that the discipline of the class-room should be generously supplemented by the enjoyment, in the fullest measure, of a common life. A common life, of course, presupposes common ground. At this University it happens that but a very small proportion of the students can enjoy the advantages of the community life provided by a college. It is perhaps unlikely that we shall ever see in Toronto a completely developed collegiate system. But even if this were the outcome, there would still be the need, indeed the greater need, for the unifying force which it is one purpose of this institution to introduce into the University.

"Hart House, in one sense, may be described as a Students' Club, but the purpose of the House is wider. It is greatly to be hoped that this place, from the many angles at which it touches the life of the student, will exert an influence of the most positive nature in giving him a real sense of membership in an academic family, and in making him conscious of a very noble tradition, which it is his duty and his privilege to maintain.

"Furthermore, let us hope that not only will the House serve the interests of the active members of the University of Toronto, teachers as well as undergraduates, but that it may help to bridge the gulf of time and space which too often separates the graduate from his University. Here will be a place where the present and the past generations may meet, and here, let us hope, may be fostered the lasting loyalty and the *esprit de corps* which are essential to the welfare of any seat of learning.

"It is a source of profound gratification, Sir, to anyone associated with Hart House, that the building, during the years of the war, was able to make some contribution to the cause which, at the time, stood of paramount importance. From the autumn of 1914 until a few months ago, the structure was used for military purposes, and for some years when construction was all but suspended, it was almost entirely occupied by Military Training Schools. On the south façade are carved the devices of the principal units which occupied the building; the Officers' Training Corps and Overseas Training Company of this University, the District School of Musketry, a Cadet School of the Royal Air Force and a unit of the Canadian Army Medical Corps. Of those who passed through these schools there were many who, had they returned, would have enriched the life of this place. We may remember them along with the great company to whose memory we do especial honour to-day.

"It is a very great pleasure to be able to pay some small tribute to the work of the Architects, Mr. Henry Sproatt and his colleague, Mr. Ernest Rolph. One finds it difficult to overstate the idealism and the devotion which both these gentlemen have applied to their task. Their object was the creation of a work of art in the true sense, but they

never failed to strike that fine balance between beauty of design and utility of purpose, the achievement of which is one of the major problems of architecture. Their enthusiasm, energy and patience in this work have been unbroken.

"I would not forget, too, to refer to those individuals and firms who have sympathetically co-operated with the architects, and under their inspiration have produced the actual fabric. On the imaginative, as well as on the purely structural side, the execution of this work has been most painstaking and entirely conscientious.

"If the direction of the building was sincere, the workmanship has been no less so. It too often happens in these days that the pleasure of self-expression has passed from manual work. On this structure, due both to the length of the period during which it was in process, and to the nature of the work itself, it was possible to preserve something of the spirit of individual achievement which is associated with another age. The craftsmen on the building, and I use this honourable term advisedly, have shown both corporately and individually, that the mediaeval joy of creation has not entirely passed. It is a satisfaction to know that, save for one or two instances, they were all Canadian citizens.

"Hart House passes to-day, Sir, from the phase of preparation to that of accomplishment; from the period of anticipation to that of fulfillment. The work is done, and the House stands a completed thing. But with the last blow of the hammer the building is finished in only one sense. The bricks and mortar are but the bones; the community of Hart House must provide the spirit. But I have no fear, Sir, for what may be called, in its widest sense, the spiritual side of the House. The institution has been organized on an ordered plan; presiding over its fortunes is a gentleman, on whose appointment as Warden of the House the University is to be congratulated; and associated with the Warden, in his task of administration, are a group of men, whose leadership in many departments of student life will give the fabric coherence, symmetry and a genuine purpose. I make no doubt that the building, through the personalities which alone can give it vitality, will take its part in what must perhaps be the supreme function of a University, the development of individual character."

To Mr. Vincent Massey is due the idea of Hart House, as well as the shape it assumed under his direction. During the entire period of construction he gave the work his personal supervision, with the result that the building represents not only an act of generous beneficence but also the contribution to the University of an ideal embodied in appropriate and lasting form.

Hart House is unique in that it successfully harbours under one roof so many activities. The building has been laid out and equipped on an exceedingly generous scale to meet the needs of a large membership. It includes a section for the Athletic Association, with Gymnasia, Indoor Running Track, Boxing, Fencing and Wrestling Rooms, Racquet Courts and a large Swimming Pool; a Great Hall where meals are served; a fully equipped Theatre; a Library; a small Chapel; a Music Room; a Sketch Room; Photographic Rooms; an Indoor Rifle Range; the Faculty Union; Y.M.C.A. offices and rooms; and Common Rooms, Billiard Rooms, Reading Rooms and Club and Committee Rooms for general use.

Membership in Hart House includes all undergraduate men in the University, who pay a compulsory fee; and members of the Faculty and Graduates on payment of an annual fee. The total membership now approximates four thousand.

Administration is under the Warden of Hart House, who is appointed by the Board of Governors on the nomination of the President of the University; and the Stewards of Hart House, a body composed of undergraduate, graduate and Faculty representatives, of which the Warden is Chairman. There are two Standing Committees—House and Hall—and various Special Committees, such as the Library, Music, and Billiard Committees, on all of which undergraduates, elected by the Members of Hart House, are in the majority. The Secretaries of at least five of these Committees are ex-officio Stewards.

Hart House, at the conclusion of its second year of operation, is taking an increasingly important place in the life of the University, and bids fair to measure up in every way to the hopes and ideals of its Founders. The growth of its activities will continue to be the result of an environment that has already proved fresh and stimulating. The passage of time will leave the building more and more beautiful. It will remain for succeeding generations of students to develop in it a tradition worthy of the House and of the University.



HART HOUSE stands to the west of Queen's Park, between the Main Building of the University and the Provincial Legislative Buildings. The main entrances face the south.



SOUTH FRONT and driveway.

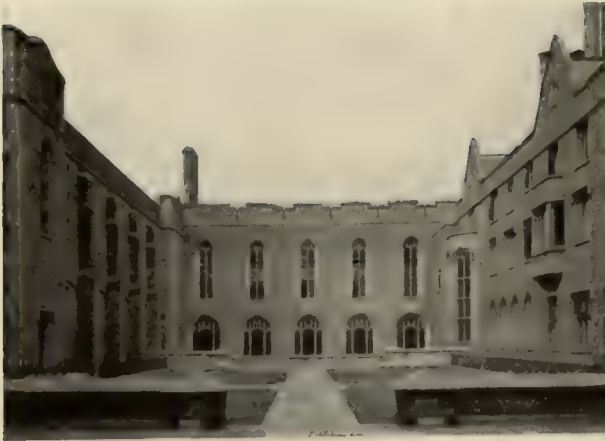
South-east corner, showing windows of the Great Hall.

South Front, looking east, showing Library and Reading Room bays.

West Front, showing the entrance to the Quadrangle.



ARCHITECTURAL features of the south and west fronts. Above the windows of the East Common Room are carved the crest of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, one of the first of many distinguished visitors; and the seal of the Massey Foundation. The bay over the West Common Room bears the badges of the military units that used Hart House during the War.



THE Quadrangle, showing the terraces and the archway to the west leading to the Campus.



IN the Quadrangle are displayed the arms of the four Colleges in the University — Victoria, University, St. Michael's and Trinity.



THE Great Hall. Above the High Table, the panels bear the arms of the Royal Family, and of fifty-one universities in the British Empire.

The Great Hall is used for the serving of meals, and has a seating capacity of three hundred.



THE panels at the north end of the Great Hall bear the arms of seventy-four universities of the Allied Nations. The portraits, from left to right, are of the following :

Sir William Meredith, Chancellor; James Loudon, President, 1892-1906; Sir Daniel Wilson, President, 1880-1892; The Hon. Edward Blake, Chancellor, 1876-1900; The Rev. John McCaul, President (successively) of King's College, the University, and University College, 1849-1880.



THE South Window in the Great Hall bears the arms of certain founders and benefactors of the University and its Colleges, as follows :

Sir Charles Bagot ; The Hon. Edward Blake ; The Right Rev. John Strachan ; The Hon. Robert Baldwin ; The Eighth Earl of Elgin ; Sir Peregrine Maitland ; The Rev. Egerton Ryerson ; The University of Toronto ; The Right Hon. Sir John Colborne ; Lieut.-Gen. John Graves Simcoe.



THE Lower Gallery outside the Great Hall, opening on the Quadrangle. The doors at the north end lead to the Gymnasium and Pool.



THE Upper Gallery of the Great Hall, used as a Dining Room for Members of the Faculty, with seating accommodation for seventy-five.



STONE STAIRS in the Lower Gallery and in the Great Hall, leading to the rooms of the Faculty Union.



THE East Common Room. The paintings shown in this and in other rooms are the work of Canadian artists, loaned by them to Hart House. The collection is changed from year to year, and includes much of the best Canadian art.



THE Music Room, devoted to chamber music. The Serving Room opening from it facilitates its occasional use as a banquet hall. The roof is of British Columbia Cedar.



THE Reading Room. Over the fireplace is carved a quotation from Horace, from which the motto of the University Arms, VELUT ARBOR AEVO, is taken.



A CORNER of the Reading Room. With minor exceptions, the woodwork in the building has been left unstained, to weather with time.



THE Library contains shelf room for seven thousand volumes of general literature. Books have already been received from many sources, including :

The Massey Foundation; Captain Harold MacMillan; Sir George Parkin, K.C.M.G.; the Estate of the late Edward Kylie, M.A.; H. T. Gerrans, M.A., (Worcester College, Oxford); James Brebner, LL.D.; Henry Sproatt, LL.D.; Roy Mitchell, Esq.; and others.



A CORNER of the Library. The memorial window was given by friends of the late Capt. Edward Kylie, a member of the University Staff, who died in the Great War.



THE Lecture Room, used as a meeting place for various organizations. There are convenient facilities for the use of a lantern.



THE Faculty Union Common Room. A Billiard Room and certain other Rooms are also reserved for the use of members of the Faculty Union.



THE Sketch Room, headquarters of the University Sketch Club, and open for the use of all Members of the House.



BAYS in the Music Room, Library, Lecture Room and Reading Room.



THE Chapel, the windows of which contain fragments of stained glass from ruined churches in France, Belgium and Italy, presented by Brig.-Gen. C. H. Mitchell, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., C.E., LL.D., Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science.



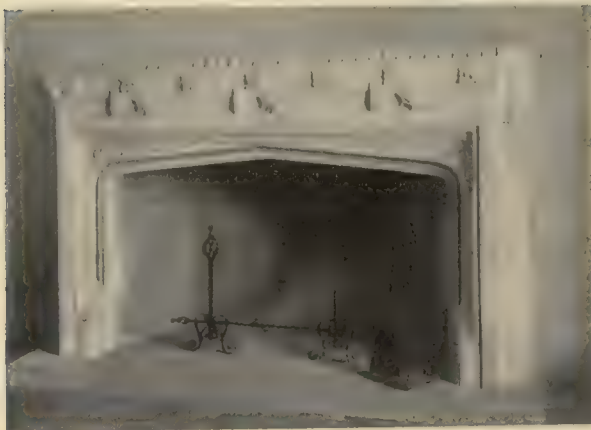
STAIRWAYS and landings. The open stair leads to the Guest Rooms, of which there are a limited number in the South Wing.



A CORNER of the Graduates' Common Room. Graduates of the University are eligible for full membership, on payment of an annual fee.



THE Middle Common Room, used as a Dining Room for Graduate Members. The windows overlook the Quadrangle.



FIREPLACES in the Billiard Room, Faculty Union, Music Room and Reading Room.



The Fireplace in the Library.



The Billiard Room.



THE Swimming Pool and Galleries. The Pool is seventy-five feet long and thirty-five feet wide. The depth varies from six feet to seven and a half feet.



THE Main Gymnasium. Physical training is included in the curriculum of the University, and this section of the building has been equipped to accommodate large classes. The apparatus is all movable, so that the Gymnasium may be used as a ball room.



THE Upper Gymnasium and Running Track. The Track is one-eleventh of a mile in length. Under the Upper Gymnasium are the Boxing, Fencing and Wrestling Rooms. The Rowing Room, Locker Rooms and the Shower-baths are on the basement level. There is locker accommodation for three thousand members.



THE Theatre Foyer. The Hart House Theatre is under the Quadrangle, and is reached through separate outside entrances. Cloak Rooms open from the Foyer.



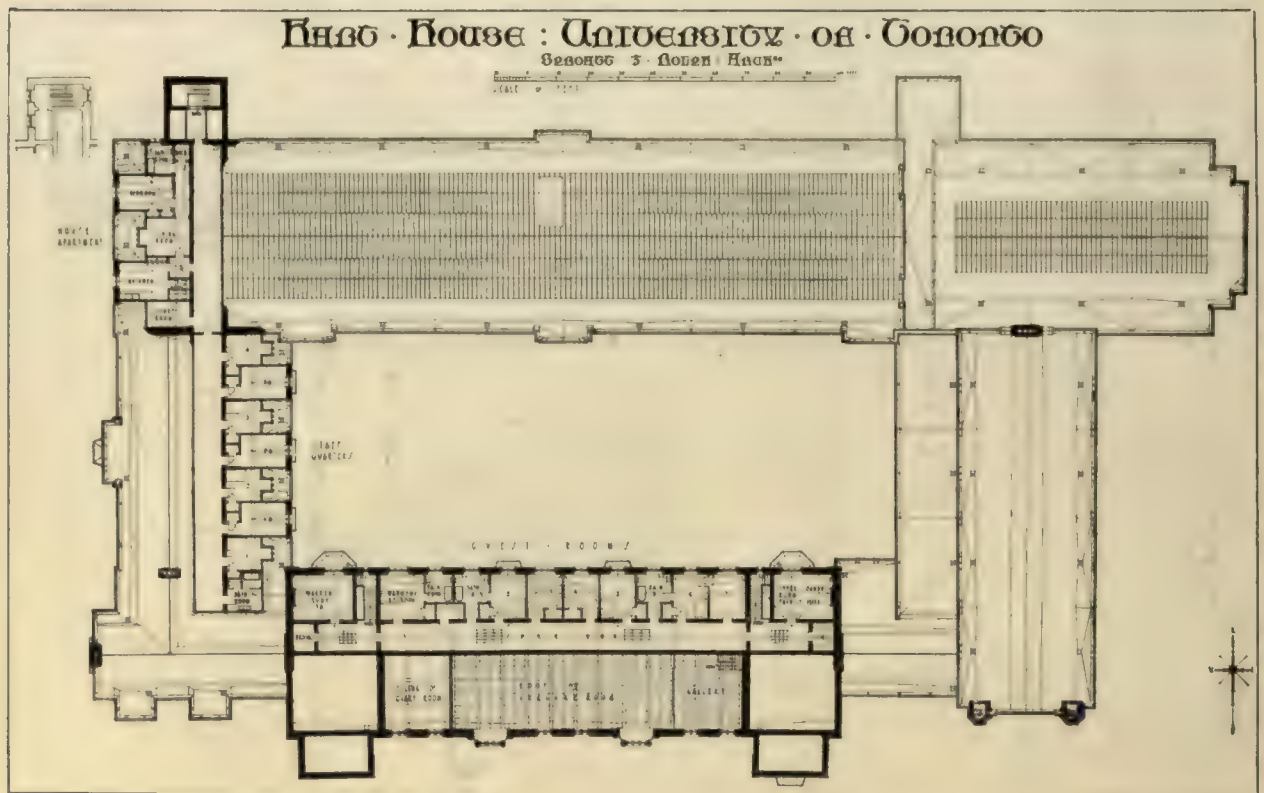
THE Theatre seats five hundred. The stage is complete with dressing rooms, workshop, wardrobe and studio. The lighting and mechanical equipment is probably unequalled in any theatre of this size.



THE Gymnasium Corridor, outside the Boxing, Fencing and Wrestling Rooms and the Main Gymnasium. The door at the end of the Corridor opens into the South Gallery of the Swimming Pool.

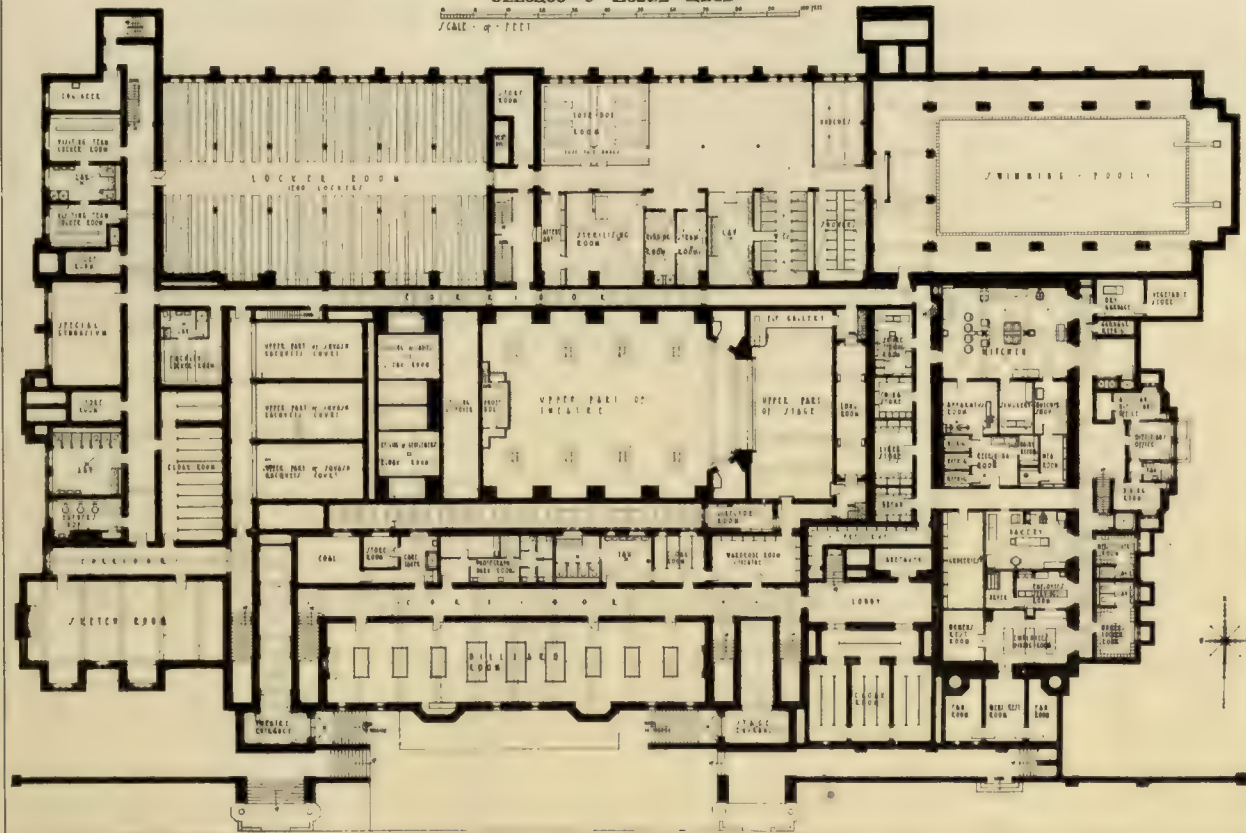
“**T**HE prayer of the Founders is, that Hart House, under the guidance of its Warden, may serve, in the generations to come, the highest interests of this University by drawing into a common fellowship the members of the several Colleges and Faculties, and by gathering into a true society, the teacher and the student, the graduate and the undergraduate; further, that the members of Hart House may discover within its walls the true education that is to be found in good fellowship, in friendly disputation and debate, in the conversation of wise and earnest men, in music, pictures and the play, in the casual book, in sports and games and the mastery of the body; and lastly, that just as in the days of war, this House was devoted to the training in arms of the young soldier, so in the time of peace its halls may be dedicated to the task of arming youth with strength and suppleness of limb, with clarity of mind and depth of understanding, and with a spirit of true religion and high endeavour.”



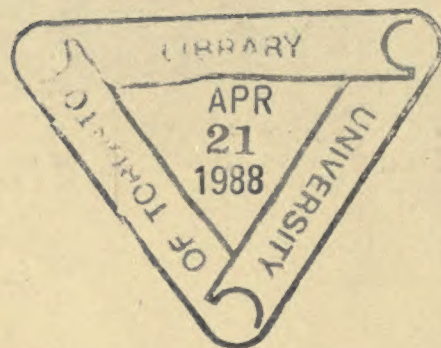


Third Floor Plan.

HARRIS HOUSE : UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO GEORGE F. HARRIS : ARCHT. SCALE - 1/4" = 1'-0"



Basement Plan.



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